UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box. 1450 Alexandria. Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590

12/21/2004

Barnes & Thornburg 11 S. Meridian Street Indianapolis, IN 46204 EXAMINER

LIN, KUANG Y

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1725

DATE MAILED: 12/21/2004

APPLICATION 1	O. FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/040.092	10/19/2001	Heiji Kato	29385-68773	1054

TITLE OF INVENTION: STRIP CASTING APPARATUS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	issue fee	PUBLICATION PEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1400	\$300	\$1700	03/21/2005

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above
- B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or
- B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.
- II. PART B FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.
- III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fec(s), to: Mail

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

(703) 746-4000 or Fax

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks I through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as

indicated unless corrected be maintenance fee notifications		in Block 1, by (a)	specifying a n	ew correspondence ad	dress; and/or (b) indicating a sepa	trate "FEE ADDRESS" for	
	: ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for	any change of address)		Note: A certifica Fee(s) Transmitt papers. Each add	ate of mailing can only be used fi al. This certificate cannot be used litional paper, such as an assignme ificate of mailing or transmission.	or domestic mailings of the for any other accompanying ent or formal drawing, must	
7590 12/21/2004 Barnes & Thornburg 11 S. Meridian Street Indianapolis, IN 46204					Certificate of Mailing or Transmission. Certificate of Mailing or Transmitat this Fcc(s) Transmittal is beinvice with sufficient postage for fir Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address USPTO (703) 746-4000, on the c	mission	
						(Depositor's name)	
						(Signatore)	
				•		(Date)	
APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	F	IRST NAMED II	VVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/040,092	10/19/2001		Heiji Ka	ito	29385-68773	1054	
TITLE OF INVENTION: ST	RIP CASTING APPARAT	US					
APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEI	E	PUBLICATION PEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE	
nonprovisional	NO	\$1400		\$300	\$1700	03/21/2005	
EXAMI	NER	ART UNIT	[CLASS-SUBCLASS			
LIN, KU	ANG Y	1725		164-428000	· .		
"Fee Address" indication PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 of Number is required. 3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND PLEASE NOTE: Unless a recordation as set forth in (A) NAME OF ASSIGNE Please check the appropriate at the following fee(s) are expressions.	ence address (or Change of G2) attached. on (or "Fee Address" Indicar more recent) attached. Use RESIDENCE DATA TO B. an assignee is identified be 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of	Correspondence tion form of a Customer E PRINTED ON THe low, no assignee do of this form is NOT (B) rics (will not be printed to the control of the contr	(1) the name or agents OR (2) the name registered at 2 registered plisted, no nan HE PATENT (parts will appear a substitute for RESIDENCE: ted on the pate Payment of Fernal A check in the substitute of the pate of the pat	on the patent. If an a filing an assignment. (CITY and STATE Of the control of the control of the fee(s))	patent attorneys g as a member a e names of up to tas. If no name is assignee is identified below, the de COUNTRY) Corporation or other private gre this enclosed.		
Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted) Advance Order - # of Copies			Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. The Director is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to				
Advance Order - # 01	copies		Deposit Accou	it Number	(enclose an extra co	opy of this form).	
5. Change in Entity Status (a. Applicant claims SM	from status indicated above FALL ENTITY status, See 3		b. Applicant	is no longer claiming	SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 Cl	FR 1.27(g)(2).	
The Director of the USPTO is NOTE: The Issue Fee and Puinterest as shown by the reconstruction.	s requested to apply the Issu blication Fee (if required) was of the United States Pate	e Fee and Publication ill not be accepted to the and Trademark C	on Fee (if any) from anyone of office.	or to re-apply any prev her than the applicant;	riously paid issue fee to the applica a registered attorney or agent; or th	tion identified above. te assignee or other party in	
Authorized Signature				Date _			
		-		-	ation No.		
Alexandra, virgina 22,1,21	42W.				it by the public which is to file (and of 12 minutes to complete, including ny comments on the amount of tit and Trademark Office, U.S. Departs. SEND TO: Commissioner to the state of the trademark of the commissioner to the state of the trademark of the tradema		

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trudemark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.U. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/040.092 10/19/2001		Heiji Kato	29385-68773	1054	
7590 12/21/2004			EXAMINER LIN, KUANG Y		
Barnes & Thomburg					
Indianapolis, IN 46204			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
•			1725		
			DATE MAIL FID: 12/21/2004		

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 0 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 0 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (703) 305-1383. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.